Mountain Weather Forecast

Lake District National Park

Forecast valid from 06:00 on Tuesday 22 Dec 2020 until 23:59 on Wednesday 23 Dec 2020

Forecast Issued on Tuesday 22 Dec 2020 at 03:07

Confidence: High to Medium confidence for Tuesday then Low on Wednesday due to uncertainty in northward extent of precipitation over the United Kingdom. High for settling down Thursday and for Christmas Day, though increasing doubt on 25th as to how quickly cloud and rain arrives from west.

Headline for Tuesday 22 Dec 2020: A bright day with some sunshine though a touch of frost at first and cloud will slowly increase.

Mountain weather hazards on Tuesday 22 Dec 2020

Blizzards No Likelihood	**Heavy Snow** No Likelihood	**Storm force winds** No Likelihood
Gales No Likelihood	**Severe chill effect** No Likelihood	**Poor visibility** No Likelihood
Thunderstorms No Likelihood	**Heavy persistent rain** No Likelihood	**Strong sunlight** Low Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m					
Time					
06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
Partly cloudy (night)	Sunny intervals	Sunny intervals	Sunny intervals	Cloudy	Cloudy
Precipitation probability					
<05%	<05%	<05%	<05%	10%	10%

Forecast for Tuesday 22 Dec 2020

Weather: A frost in some of the dales and icy surfaces in places at first. Mostly dry and bright day with sunny spells, but there could be an isolated snow flurry and cloud will gradually increase in the evening.

Chance of cloud free mountain/hill tops above 800m: 90% with only occasional cloud near the summits, though lower chance in any snow flurries, with perhaps broken cloud around 500 or 600m, becoming 40% late evening with broken cloud down to 600m.

Visibility: Generally good or very goody, but moderate in any snow flurries

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Mountain Weather Forecast

Forecast for Tuesday 22 Dec 2020

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph) Wind Direction (blowing from)						
	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	21/24 W	16/20 W	16/19 W	12/15 SW	6/8 S	4/5 SE	7/9 E
600	17/23 W	15/21 W	13/18 W	10/14 SW	5/7 S	3/4 SE	5/7 E
300	6/19 W	5/15 W	5/13 W	3/10 W	3/6 SW	2/4 NW	2/5 NE
Valley	4/18 NW	5/15 NW	6/13 W	3/9 W	2/4 NW	2/4 NE	4/6 NE

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)						
	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	0/-7	0/-6	0/-6	-0/-5	-0/-4	-0/-2	-0/-4
600	2/-4	2/-3	2/-2	2/-2	2/-1	2/0	2/-1
300	4/2	4/2	5/3	4/3	3/2	3/2	3/1
Valley	6/4	6/4	7/6	7/6	5/4	5/4	5/4
Freezing Level*	800m	800m	800m	800m	800m	700m	700m

**Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.*

Meteorologist's View

A chilly start with temperatures in some valleys as low as minus 1 C, then good spells of sunshine from a low angle and perhaps some glare off the snow on the summits. Some wind chill effect at height but mainly light winds.

Forecast for Wednesday 23 Dec 2020

Weather: Cloud thickening and lowering overnight to bring rain, some heavy and falling as sleet or snow above 650m. Then likely cloudy and wet through the morning with further snow on the tops and perhaps blizzard conditions and some fresh accumulations building up. Rain becoming more patchy in the afternoon, but becoming windier and colder with rain snow level down to 450m before clearing in early evening, with a significant chill. Some clear spells developing through the evening and feeling very cold

Maximum wind: Easterly 15mph becoming northeast 25 gust 35mph by lunchtime and increasing 30-35 gust 50mph by the evening

Chance of cloud free mountain/hill tops above 800m: Almost nil with extensive cloud down to low levels, though chance improving to around 30% in west in afternoon as stronger winds lift cloud a bit and chance improving in evening once rain clears

Visibility: Moderate or poor, but very poor on the higher slopes for much of the time. Becoming good in early evening.

Temperature: **Valleys:** Plus 4 C rising to plus 8 C, but falling to plus 3 C later
At 800m: Minus 1 rising to plus 3 C, but falling to minus 3 C later
Freezing level: 800m falling to 600m in evening

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Mountain Weather Forecast

Ground Conditions Supplement
Date: Monday 21 December Location: Helvellyn summit at 12:55 Full report: Much of the weekend's snow above 700m has thawed. Some fresh snow fell overnight and has settled above 900m on the older snow that remained. However, the majority of the fells up to and including summit level are free from snow. Although insignificant, isolated patches of snow can be found from 700m, the majority lies above 900m in sheltered spots and hollows and on mainly east and north facing aspects. The snow was soft, very wet, thawing and largely avoidable. Far more of a hazard was the wet, slippery nature of the rocks underfoot , especially on exposed routes. At the time of writing, the current forecast is for an overnight frost and a daytime freezing level on Tuesday of c800m. Given the current ground conditions, anyone heading for the higher fells on Tuesday should be prepared to encounter verglas (thin ice) on rocks and paths together with thin patches of hard, icy snow (ie far more nuisance value than fun!) With a summit windchill on Monday of minus 4 degrees C, full winter clothing (waterproofs, extra warm layers, hat & gloves), mountain boots and equipment – including map and compass and ability to use them in limited visibility - are all essential for anyone venturing out onto the fells. Hopefully, sunglasses will also be required on Tuesday! Temperature: plus 2.6C Maximum wind speed 18.8mph Wind chill: minus 4.2C Average wind speed: 13.5mph
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Issued at: 03:07 on Tue 22 Dec 2020

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